

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 L-03 IO-10 OIC-02 PA-02 JUSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2875

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

UNCLAS PRETORIA 3849

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SF

SUBJ: WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 238514

1. POST NOMINATES MR. WELLINGTON MTSHALI, MAGISTRATE. FOR FULL BIODATA SEE GAI BIO SHEET PREPARED WHEN MTSHALI VISITED US AS FY 73 IV. ALSO SEE PETERSON-RHYNE LETTER OF JULY 1, 1975.

JUSTIFICATION:

1. IN TERMS SA LAW SITUATION, AS A FIRST AFRICAN SENIOR MAGISTRATE, MTSHALI EQUIVALENT TO TRIAL JUDGE. AS YET, NO BLACKS IN SOUTH AFRICA CARRY TITLE OF " JUDGE" AND MTSHALI, IN OUR OPINION, MOST LIKELY CANDIDATE AS ONE OF FIRST BLACK JUDGES TO SUPREMEMCOURT.

2. HIS INTEGRITY IS ABOVE QUESTION AND HIS WISE AND FAIR JUDGEMENTS ARE EARNING HIM INCREASING RESPECT AND ATTENTION. IN FACT, OUTSPOKEN AND FORTHRIGHT, MTSHALI COMMANDS ATTENTION AND RESPECT FROM ALL WITH WHOM HE COMES INTO CONTACT AND ALWAYS MAKES STRONG AND EFFECTIVE IMPACT. HE IS FORCEFUL COMMUNITY LEADER AND ARTICULATE SPEAKER. HE HAS STRONG ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS.

3. AS IV GRANTEE TO US IN 1973, HE MADE CONSIDERABLE IMPRESSION AND IS DESCRIBED IN CU FINAL REPORT AS FOLLOWS: -... AN INDIVIDUAL DEDICATED TO THE IDEAL OF PROVIDING OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIVIDUAL UNCLASSIFIED

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ACHIEVEMENTS AMONG HIS RACE IN SOUTH AFRICA... THIS WAS A MOST

WORTHWHILE CHOICE... THIS MAN TOOK ADVANTAGE OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND TO UNDERSTAND CONDITIONS IN THE U.S. AND THE DIRECTION IT IS TAKING."

4. ALTHOUGH MTSHALI HAS HAD PREVIOUS TRIP, HE IS ANXIOUS HAVE OPPORTUNITY ATTEND WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CONFERENCE TO BE ABSORBED INTO " LEGAL ATMOSPHERE" AND HAVE CHANCE SHARING " LEGAL MATTERS AND IDEAS" WITH WORLD LAW FRATERNITY. MTSHALI FEELS THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAS BROKEN DOWN MANY LEGAL BARRIERS PREVIOUSLY IMPENDING BLACKS, PREVAILING RACIAL SITUATION STILL ALLOWS ONLY LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCOURSE AND DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN LOCAL LEGAL FRATERNITY OF ALL RACES.
MTSHALI HAS SAID, " I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO EXPAND MYSELF - MY IDEAS. I NEED OVERSEAS EXPOSURE TO RESTORE MY SENSE OF PERSPECTIVE AND BALANCE. I NEED FRESH THINKING."

5. POST MOST HIGHLY RECOMMENDS THIS OUTSTANDING, WORTHWHILE AND IMPRESSIVE CANDIDATE.

6. AS OCTOBER 10 IS SOUTH AFRICAN PUBLIC HOLIDAY, REQUEST ADVISE BY RETURN CABLE.
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